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## II.    Claims

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-16, 18-19, 22-23, 25-26, 28-36 are currently pending. Claims 1, 9, 16, and 23 have been amended. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listing of the claims.

1.      (currently amended) A method of abstracting an electronic document comprising the following steps:

prompting a user to select at least one abstracted version of the electronic document;

selecting a set of instructions for abstracting the electronic document, wherein the set of instructions are particularized to the electronic document before selection thereof;

creating the abstracted version of the electronic document by executing the selected set of instructions; and

outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

2.      (canceled)

3.      (previously amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions further comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by executing the set of instructions.

4.      (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions are attached to the electronic document.

5.      (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical articles.

6.      (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adverbs.

7.      (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adjectives.

8.    (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for contracting verb clauses.

9.    (currently amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program code for abstracting an electronic document, the medium comprising:

a first code segment for prompting a user to select at least one abstracted version of the electronic document;

a second code segment for selecting a set of instructions for abstracting the electronic document, wherein the set of instructions are particularized to the electronic document before selection thereof;

a third code segment for creating the abstracted version of the electronic document by executing the selected set of instructions; and

a fourth code segment for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

10.    (canceled)

11.    (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions are attached to the electronic document.

12.    (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical articles.

13.    (original) The computer-readable medium of claims 9, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adverbs.

14.    (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adjectives.

15.    (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for contracting verb clauses.

16.    (currently amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave encoded with computer program code for abstracting an electronic document comprising:

a first code segment for prompting a user to select at least one abstracted version of the electronic document;

a second code segment for selecting a set of instructions for abstracting the electronic document, wherein the set of instructions are particularized to the electronic document before selection thereof;

a third code segment for creating the abstracted version of the electronic document by executing the selected set of instructions; and

a fourth code segment for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

17.    (canceled)

18.    (original) The computer data signal of claim 16, wherein the set of instructions are attached to the electronic document.

19.    (previously amended) The computer data signal of claim 16, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical articles, removing grammatical adverbs, removing grammatical adjectives, or a combination thereof.

20.    (canceled)

21.    (canceled)

22.    (original) The computer data signal of claim 16, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for contracting verb clauses.

23.    (currently amended) A system for abstracting an electronic document comprising:

a means for storing an electronic document;

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a means for storing at least one set of instructions for abstracting the electronic document, wherein the set of instructions are particularized to the electronic document before selection thereof;

a means for creating the abstracted version of the electronic document; and

a means for outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format.

24.    (canceled)

25.    (original) The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions are attached to the electronic document.

26.    (previously amended) The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical articles, removing grammatical adverbs or a combination thereof.

27.    (canceled)

28.    (original) The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for removing grammatical adjectives.

29.    (original) The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions comprise instructions for contracting verb clauses.

30.    (previously added)    The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the set of instructions further comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by executing the set of instructions.

31.    (previously added)    The computer data signal of claim 16, wherein the set of instructions further comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by executing the set of instructions.

32.    (previously added)    The system of claim 23, wherein the set of instructions further comprise a description of at least one abstracted version capable of being created by executing the set of instructions.

33.    (previously added) The method of Claim 1, wherein said set of instructions includes weights associated with respective portions of said electronic document.

34.    (previously added) The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, wherein said set of instructions includes weights associated with respective portions of said electronic document.

35.    (previously added) The computer data signal of claim 16, wherein said set of instructions includes weights associated with respective portions of said electronic document.

36.    (previously added)    The system of claim 23, wherein said set of instructions includes weights associated with respective portions of said electronic document.